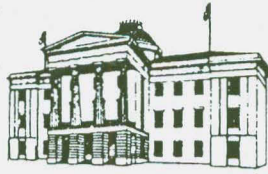# State of North Carolina

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

WINE AND GRAPE APPRECIATION MONTH

2010

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the wine community is an important part of agribusiness in North Carolina and wineries are flourishing across the Tar Heel State; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina currently has more than 95 wineries and 400 commercial grape growers; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina ranks seventh nationally in wine production and tenth in grape production; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is the home of our nation's first cultivated wine grape, the scuppernong, which grew wild on Roanoke Island and today is over 400 years old and stretches half an acre; it was noticed in 1585 by Sir Walter Raleigh explorers, which led to North Carolina becoming the leading wine-producing state prior to Prohibition; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of North Carolina-produced grapes and wine is estimated at $813 million, employing 5,700 workers in the State; and

WHEREAS, vineyards and wineries play an important role in North Carolina's tourism industry, with wineries and vineyards significantly enhancing tourism in the State by providing unique travel destinations, green space, and aesthetic appeal; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2007 national survey sponsored by the Travel Industry Association in partnership with *Gourmet* magazine and the International Culinary Tourism Association, North Carolina is one of the top five state destinations for wine and culinary tourism activities in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2010, as **"WINE AND GRAPE APPRECIATION MONTH"** in North Carolina and commend its observance to all citizens.

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourteenth day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.